

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SY-05  
SIL-01 EB-08 ICA-11 MCT-01 /066 W  
-----043217 250304Z /73 L

R 242046Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5477

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(☒) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ( ) In Part (☒) In Full

( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to  
Date Declassify on Reason

~~SECRET~~ BUENOS AIRES 3131

E.O. QQYTW GDS  
TAGS ELAB, SHUM, AR (SMITH, OSCAR)  
SUBJECT LABOR MINISTER REPLIES TO AFL CIO TELEGRAM

REF: BUENOS AIRES 1652

1. AS A FOOTNOTE TO REFTEL AND IN VIEW OF DEPARTMENTS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN INFORMATION--INCLUDING UNEVALUATED RUMORS--WE PICK UP CONCERNING LABOR DISAPPEARANCES, ON EMBASSY CONTACT WHOSE REPORTING HAS BEEN OF VARYING RELIABILITY HAS STUCK ALL ALONG TO THE FOLLOWING STORY CONCERNING MISSING LIGHT AND POWER LEADER OSCAR SMITHS WHEREABOUTS: OUR SOURCE HAS CLAIMED HE HEARD FROM ARMY SECURITY OPERATIVES THAT SMITH WAS BEING KEPT ALIVE FOR UNKNOWN PURPOSES IN THE ARMY COMMUNICATIONS SCHOOL AT CAMPO DE MAYO. HE MISTAKENLY HAS REFERRED TO THAT INSTITUTION AS THE "GENERAL LEMOS SCHOOL", (THE GENERAL LEMOS SCHOOL AT CAMPO DE MAYO IS A COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT SCHOOL.)

2. EMBASSY COMPONENTS HAVE NO OTHER INFORMATION WHICH WOULD TEND TO SUPPORT THIS REPORT. AS WE POINTED OUT IN REFTEL, MOST TRADE UNION OBSERVERS BELIEVE SMITH IS DEAD. THE EMBASSY CONTACT MENTIONED IN

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PARA (1) IS ALSO THE SOURCE OF OUR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE 19 CERAMICS WORKERS ALLEGEDLY KILLED NOVEMBER 1977

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IN CAMPO DE MAYO (BUENOS AIRES 2677) AND HE IS THE SAME  
INDIVIDUAL WHOSE WARNING TO AIFLD REGIONAL ADVISOR JULIO  
ETCHEVERRY PROMPTED DEPARTMENTS INQUIRY REGARDING  
LATTERS SAFETY (STATE 94144).

3. DAO IS NOT AWARE OF ANY PRISONERS BEING HELD  
EITHER AT COMMUNICATIONS SCHOOL OR GENERAL LEMOS SCHOOL.  
CASTRO

[REDACTED]  
NNN

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